

**Please amend the specification As Follows:**

Page 37, lines 1-2 (reference to paragraph [0114] is to Published Application):

[0114] FIG. 4 illustrates a collection of patches (a 7patch 401, a 12patch 403, and an 18patch 405) of a database. The dashed circle 407 represents the entire document space.

Page 37, line 17 to Page 38, line 5 (reference to paragraph [0117] is to Published Application):

[0117] FIG. 5 shows an essential function of CONF to the clusters  $[[[[A]]] \underline{C_i}$  and  $[[[[B]]] \underline{C_j}]$  which include 8 and 10 vectors, respectively. Two vectors are in the common intersection of  $[[[[A]]] \underline{C_i}$  and  $[[[[B]]] \underline{C_j}]$ , and therefore when the function CONF is applied to the patches in the order  $[[[[A]]] \underline{C_i}, [[[[B]]] \underline{C_j}]$ , that is,  $\text{CONF}([[[[A]]] \underline{C_i}, [[[[B]]] \underline{C_j}])$ , the result is 0.25 or 25%. When the function is applied in the order  $[[[[B]]] \underline{C_j}, [[[[A]]] \underline{C_i}]$ , that is,  $\text{CONF}([[[[B]]] \underline{C_j}, [[[[A]]] \underline{C_i}])$ , the result is 0.2 or 20%. The function CONF can be applied to any two patches drawn from a common underling sample of the database.